

### Easter egg collector

Ava De Alejandro, 7 months, takes part in the Easter egg hunt for children at the Spring Fest celebration at Fowler Park at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. The Easter Bunny, the American Kids Fun Run, a petting zoo, a cookie contest, art show, craft fair, martial arts demonstration and the West Valley Youth Orchestra were all part of the activities, cosponsored by the 56th Services Squadron. Photo by Senior Airman Christopher Hummel



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# NEWS

## News & Views

The **News & Views** is published periodically by Air Force Services Agency. Send comments, suggestions or submissions to: **submissions@agency.afsv.af.mil** or **steve.vanwert@agency.afsv.af.mil**.

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# Dover Leisure Travel tours White House

By Theresa Krause  
436<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

On the morning of Feb. 26, 44 Dover team members gathered at Eagle Lanes Bowling Center's parking lot to board a bus headed to the heart of American history, the White House, located in our nation's capital, Washington, D.C.

The tour, hosted by the Leisure Travel Office, included children, active duty members, base civilians, retirees and their families. On the agenda was a learning experience in U.S. history, art and politics at the White House, some free time for an "on-your-own" excursion and dinner at an area landmark restaurant.

"This White House tour was the highlight of one of our Washington, D.C. 'On Your Own

Tours' that run throughout the year," said Teresa Kinnari, Leisure Travel recreation assistant. "The last time LTO offered a special tour of this nature was July 2001."

According to Ms. Kinnari, the recent tour was added as a result of customer requests. Signups were taken three months in advance and due to the overwhelming response, the tour sold out with a waiting list holding the overflow.

Preparation began early in the fall of 2004 to make the tour happen through LTO.

"In order to secure a White House tour, requests must be submitted

through one's member of Congress six months in advance. Once accepted, the actual tour is scheduled one month before the requested date," said Ms. Kinnari. "We submitted two dates to be sure that one would work out."

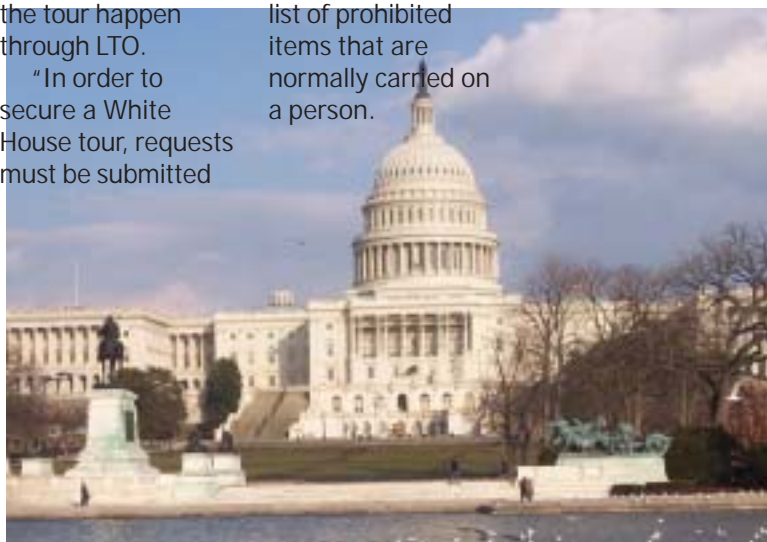
Minor security details needed to be addressed for the tour participants prior to heading into the grand house.

According to Ms. Kinnari, photo identification was a must-have for participants older than 15. Also, the group was given a list of prohibited items that are normally carried on a person.

"The only items that are allowed to be carried into the White House are a wallet, keys, umbrella and a cell phone," said Ms. Kinnari.

After gaining insight to "what it's like to live like a president," members spent free time exploring other gems the city had to offer such as museums, gardens, shopping and more.

Finally the tour ended on a tasteful note at a popular surf and turf restaurant.



# Services director a double-winner

**By Steve VanWert**  
**Air Force Services**  
**Agency**

Arthur Myers, a member of the Senior Executive Service and director of Air Force Services, was honored twice recently when the Boys and Girls Clubs of America inducted him into its Hall of Fame and the White House announced that he had been recognized as a 2004 recipient of a Presidential Rank Award.

The hall of fame induction recognizes former Boys and Girls Clubs of America members who have gone on to make major contributions in their respective fields, from sports and entertainment to business, medicine and the military. Mr. Myers, a Boys Club member in his native state of New Jersey, was nominated and selected in recognition of his public service and excellence in Air Force Services. Standing with him on stage were fellow 2005 inductees, actor Courtney

Vance, singer Ruben Studdard, baseball Hall of Famer Joe Morgan and former Boston Celtics and Villanova basketball star Ed Pickney.

The 2004 Presidential Rank Awards were established to recognize career senior executive service people who exemplify the highest level of integrity, leadership and personal conduct. Recipient must have demonstrated exceptional performance over an extended period of time. My Myers was selected for the Meritorious Award, which is limited to the top 5 percent of all SESs. This is the second time he has received this honor.

The citation reads, in part, "Arthur Myers delivered combat support to contingency operations that have grown substantially in scope and complexity, while expanding community services to those left behind. He kept Air Force members fit to fight, secure with the knowledge that those back home

were well cared for. His world-class programs served as the model for other agencies and nations."

The secretary of the Air Force summed up Mr. Myers career by saying, "An exemplary and world-class leader, he inspired Services peacetime and wartime support to new heights in the face of ever-changing requirements and world situations."

Air Force recipients were honored April 27 at a ceremony at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial in Arlington National Cemetery.

Michael Dominguez, acting secretary of the Air Force, and Gen. Gregory Martin, commander of Air Force Materiel Command, were the event hosts.

Mr. Myers was unable to be present at the ceremony, however, because he was flying to San Diego, Calif., at the same time to attend his Boys and Girls



**Arthur Myers, director of Air Force Services.**

Club Hall of Fame induction.

"I'm greatly honored to have received these prestigious awards. When I reflect on their common theme — Major Contributions Fueled by Exceptional Performance — I know this highlights the hard work, dedication and professionalism of every person in the Services family. I am very proud of their outstanding support to our warfighting commanders and our Air Force community. I am honored to be a

member of the Air Force Services Team."

Mr. Myers, who served 20 years on active duty in the U.S. Air Force, has been director of Air Force Services since January 1998. He first moved to U.S. Air Force headquarters in February 1991 as the first deputy director of the organization then known as Air Force Morale, Welfare and Recreation.

He remained there through several reorganizations until assuming his present position.



# Riverside Dining; people helping people

**By Theresa Amlong  
45th Services Squadron**

Five-hundred-twenty-two Special Olympic athletes, volunteers and chaperones from throughout south-east Florida dined in the tropical setting of the 45th Services Riverside Dining Facility recently as Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., played host to the State Sectional Basketball Tournament.

The facility staff and volunteers spent 11 hours prepping and cooking approximately 600 pounds of hamburger, hot dogs, macaroni and cheese, green beans and sugar-free gelatin dessert for the athletes. In

addition, 570 box lunches with ham or turkey and cheese sandwiches, yogurt, muffins, granola bars and fresh fruit were prepared for the next day.

"We've used this menu in prior years. It's been pre-approved through the Company Grade Officers Association and it meets the Golden Eagle standards of quality and nutrition," said Pete King, 45th Services Food Service officer. "It's a nutritious, well-balanced meal that the athletes love."

Volunteers from various base agencies, as well as retirees, help keep the program flowing smoothly. "We've been doing this for

years and it's very well organized," said Mike Miller, purchasing manager for Riverside Dining. "There are no disruptions to our active duty patrons. We set up an assembly line with the volunteers preparing the trays and serving. The athletes are seated in the Manatee and Dolphin rooms, we plate the food and hand-carry it out to them. There are numerous volunteers and chaperones to assist the athletes in addition to our staff volunteers who prepare, serve and clean up. We know in advance if there are any patrons that have special dietary requirements, such as a vegetarian

meal, and are ready to go with that."

Normally athletes must pay the 33 percent basic allowance for subsistence surcharge. However, this year, Riverside Dining Facility obtained special permission from George Miller, the Air Force Food Service director, to cover the surcharge for the athletes.

Riverside Dining Facility, which offers high quality, nutritious, foods in a comfortable setting, serves approximately 450 people each day.

"Serving Special Olympics participants is an extension of what we do on a day-to-day basis," said Mr. King. "Our Food Service

contract is held by the National Institute for Severely Handicapped, which teaches folks to live and work on their own." Mr. King said that by law 75 percent of the dining facility's employees must be NISH, though Riverside Dining Facility is 82 percent NISH.

Dining Facility Manager A.J. Welch said that NISH employees love what they do and do it well. "All of our employees feel proud supporting people with other disabilities and helping the Special Olympics athletes in achieving their goals," he said.

"People helping people," said Mr. King. "That's outstanding."



**Youth from the Special Olympics State Sectional Basketball Tournament enjoy a meal at the Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., Riverside Dining Facility. Volunteers from the 45th Space Wing stepped up to help prepare the trays, seat the athletes and serve the meals. Photo by Theresa Amlong**

## Lodging converts 20 housing units to TLFs

By Margo Turner,  
Capital Flyer staff writer

Twenty housing units on Popular Court were recently renovated and furnished as temporary lodging facilities for active duty members and DOD civilian employees and their families PCSing to Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

The first guests are expected to occupy the TLFs in April, said Audra Griner, 89th Services Squadron Gateway Inn lodging general manager.

Col. John Torres, 89th Airlift Wing vice commander, led a ribbon-cutting ceremony in front of a unit at 4640 Popular Court. Providing the new TLFs is a team effort on Andrews, he said.

The 89th Services Squadron lodging and housekeeping staff, 89th Civil Engineer Squadron Housing Office staff and members from other units also attended the ceremony.

Mrs. Griner said active duty members of all ranks and their families PCSing to Andrews are classified as priority one for staying at the new TLFs.

Families in priority one status are authorized up to 30 days, if space allows, in the TLFs. They stay in the facilities for up to 10 days when PCSing out of Andrews. Other people will be allowed to stay in the TLFs based on availability of the units.

Andrews has 60 one-bedroom temporary lodging units located across from the Shoppette on Brookley Avenue and eight two-bedroom units on Vandenburg Drive located across from Malcolm Grow Medical Center.

"Our existing temporary lodging facilities don't have adequate space for larger families PCSing to Andrews," said Mrs. Griner. "The old facilities will eventually be demolished as we prepare for the construction of a new 50-unit temporary lodging facility building."

## Dover Outdoor Rec gets new RV lot

By April Crampton  
436<sup>th</sup> Services

Dover Air Force Base, Del., Outdoor Recreation is waiting for the final touches to be completed on the new 200-space recreational vehicle parking lot.

"We initiated a needs validation study for a new, larger RV parking lot in 2000," said Bob Spragg, 436<sup>th</sup> Community Support flight chief. "We received approval for the project funding in March 2002 and began construction June 2004."

The funds used for construction primarily came from profits generated by

the Army and Air Force Exchange Service.

"We appreciate the Dover team members that continue to use the AAFES services," said Mr. Spragg. "This helps ensure that funds will be available to construct new morale, welfare and recreation facilities in the future."

"We are excited to get a RV lot that is larger and has more security," said Dave Sawicki, 436<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron, Outdoor Recreation manager. "Features included with the new RV lot are security fencing, lighting, keypad operated entry gate,

100 20-foot spaces and 100 40-foot spaces to rent."

The parking lot is located on the south side of the base across from the Security Forces dog kennels.

"The new parking lot is close to where the existing RV parking lot is located," said Mr. Sawicki. "When the new parking lot opens, the old one will return to a parking area for customers using Eagles' Nest picnic area."

"We are happy to offer this new lot to our valuable customers," said Mr. Sawicki. "It will provide them with a first class facility."



Construction is winding down on the new RV rental parking lot as Dover Air Force Base, Del., Outdoor Recreation prepares for the future opening. Photo by April Crampton

# 45<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron rides out 'The Tides' of change

**By Theresa Amlong**  
**45th Services Squadron**

A massive fire destroyed the Patrick Air Force Base, Fla., Officer's Club on Jan. 31, though more than 70 firefighters from the base and surrounding communities battled the blaze.

The 40,000 square foot club featured a glass view of the ocean and had been in operation since 1951.

Senior leadership on Patrick AFB began working immediately to make alternative plans to accommodate the displaced club members and staff. Within days, with Air Force level approval, the former NCO Club was officially designated a collocated club named The Tides. Though growing pains are inevitable, many efforts are being made to ensure first class food, entertainment and banquet facilities continue to be offered to club patrons of all ranks. During this conversion process, letters are being mailed out to all members to keep them updated.

"Some quick modifications need to be made and we'll be busy over the next several months as we sort out the details," said Lt. Col. Mark McCullohs, 45th Services Squadron commander.

"Some of the existing policies and programs will be modified in order to accommodate all our members into one facility," he said.

One such change is the addition of a designated Officers' Lounge. Additional changes include opening the facility for Sunday Brunch,

expanding service for lunch and dinner Monday through Friday.

Consolidated Bingo on Wednesday evenings and other programs are being worked into the club program.

"There is limited space for functions now due to accommodating so many more special event bookings," said Colonel McCullohs. "Some will be re-located on a case-by-case basis. Functions will be booked based on room availability."

To assist in determining the short and long term solutions, a Project Validation Assessment team arrived in April.

"This team will help in the planning process of the newly designated Tides Club and plan for a new facility," said Colonel McCullohs. "We will come out of this tragedy with a modern facility able to host the many functions we are accustomed to in our club."

"Management and staff are working together and a smooth transition to a collocated club is our goal," said Bill DeCoux, 45th Services Squadron deputy.

"We are trying to implement as many of the previous programs as possible," said Mr. DeCoux. "Meanwhile we are conducting a needs assessment of the current facility for its adaptability as a collocated club and will look at the need for interior upgrades, equipment improvement, storage requirements, and facility modifications."

The squadron is making a priority to find jobs within Services for displaced workers.

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***"We will come out of this tragedy with a modern facility able to host the many functions we are accustomed to in our club."***

***-- Lt. Col. Mark McCullohs,  
45th Services Squadron commander***

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# Air Force Marketing offices recognized by ad industry

**By Steve VanWert**  
Air Force Services  
Agency

Local Services marketing offices at Kadena Air Base, Japan, and Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., among others, were recognized by the advertising industry for their work in 2004 during a special recognition dinner near the conclusion of the recent annual Air Force Marketing Workshop in San Antonio, attended by marketing directors and representatives from Air Force bases worldwide.

Evaluators from the American Advertising Federation's 10<sup>th</sup> District reviewed 169 individual pieces of marketing collateral turned in by bases worldwide.

The pieces included posters, fliers, brochures, newsletters, monthly publications, and more. All work was displayed at the conference. Pieces that typified a standard of excellence in accordance with industry criteria were given special acknowledgement.

Kadena received four gold and 10

silver acknowledgements and Maxwell captured three gold and two silver.

This is the first year for this annual program. Next year's program will also be held in conjunction with the Air Force Marketing Workshop.

"This recognition program was developed to create drive for achievement and to encourage cross-pollination of marketing knowledge from base to base," said Gary Lott, Air Force Services Agency. "It rewards them for excellent work."

Those who received gold acknowledgements and categories were:

Kadena AB: Catherine Lane, Sales Promotion Newsletter; Yasuhiro Higa, Sales Promotion Menu; Lane and Takako Uehara, Publication Design Editorial Spread; and Lane and Uehara, Publication Design Series.

Maxwell AFB: Sales Promotion Sales Kit or Product Info, Mixed Multiple Media Consumer Local and Service Institutional Print.

Eglin AFB, Fla.: Joseph Smalley, Single Poster; Ele-

ments of Advertising, Single; and Elements of Advertising Campaign.

Pope AFB, N.C.: Lorna Sanchez, In-Store Advertising Signage; and Four-Color Brochure.

Little Rock AFB, Ark.: Felicia Johnson, In-Store Merchandizing Product Display.

Luke AFB, Ariz.: Tanya Conde, Publication Design Cover.

U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo.: Todd Ryan and James Lovely, Point of Purchase Counter Top or Attached.



## 5 Air Force aero clubs earn 5-star recognition

Aero club managers pose with their 5-Star plaques. Air Force aero clubs were rated in operations, programs, training, facility and customer service, and awarded points according to a checklist. Only five clubs qualified as 5-Star clubs and six earned 4-Star designation. From left, Doug Botbyl, manager, Edwards Air Force Base, Calif.; Joe Nickle, manager, Dover AFB, Del.; Tom Ferguson, manager, Holloman AFB, N.M.; Mike Calvert, manager, Barksdale AFB, La.; and Dave Mitson, representing Yokota Air Base, Japan. Photo by Steve VanWert



FROM THE AGENCY

# Dyess CDC earns national accreditation

By Senior Airman Matthew Rosine  
Dyess Air Force Base Public Affairs

The Dyess Air Force Base, Texas, Child Development Center recently earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children. According to the CDC, the organization is considered the nation's leading organization of early childhood professionals.

"We're proud to be accredited by NAEYC, and recognized for our commitment to reaching the highest professional standards," said Sherry Stephens, Dyess CDC director. "NAEYC Accreditation lets families in our community know that children in our program are getting the best care and early learning experiences."

The accreditation process is a voluntary comprehensive self-study program that meets strict criteria related to high-quality programming for children.

The next step for Dyess was a command-level review of the package before submission. Once the criteria was met, the true evaluation began. The criteria range from having well qualified, knowledgeable staff to meeting stringent health and safety standards. There is emphasis placed on key elements that must be evident, such as positive and frequent interactions between children and adults with respect shown towards each other and regular two-way communication with parents.

The program uses a philosophy based on current knowledge of child development with a special emphasis on early childhood education.

"We are responsible for supporting the development of the whole child, meaning all areas of development are considered inter-related and equally important," Ms. Stephens said. "Our program acknowledges

that our children learn through active, hands-on involvement with their environment, peers and caring adults."

"We respect each child's unique interests, experiences, abilities and needs, thus allowing us to be responsive to and appropriate for each child," Ms. Stephens added. "Children are valued as individuals, as well as part of a group. Likewise, our program respects and supports the ideals, cultures, and values of families in their tasks of nurturing children. We advocate for children, families and the early childhood professionals within our programs."

Currently more than 8,000 early childhood programs – serving nearly three quarters of a million children – are currently accredited by NAEYC.

"In recent years, we've seen a growing number of child care and preschool programs earning NAEYC Accreditation," said Mark Ginsberg, PhD., executive director of NAEYC. "By earning accreditation, Dyess CDC has become a leader in a national effort to raise the quality of early childhood, and to help give all children a better start."

NAEYC created its accreditation program in 1985 to set professional standards for early childhood programs, and to help families identify high-quality child care and early education programs.

The program is observed by independent professional validators, and then reviewed by a national panel. Programs are accredited by NAEYC for a five-year period.

Dyess' official accreditation begins retroactive to Feb. 28, 2005 and will end Feb. 28, 2010.

"This accreditation will really help secure peace of mind," Ms. Stephens said. "Dyess parents will have the peace of mind knowing their children are truly safe and well cared for – to me that is really more important than anything else."



# Childcare relief for families of deployed

By Steve VanWert  
Air Force Services Agency

Families of service members serving in the Global War on Terror will no longer have to be concerned about finding high quality childcare off base. The Air Force has found a way to help.

Operation: Military Child Care, announced officially March 3, will provide support for families of deployed Guard, Reserve and active duty service members.

Operation: Military Child Care, which will be administered by the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, will provide financial relief and assistance locating quality child care for eligible military families who do not have access to the DOD's on-base child care options.

NACCRRRA will work with 13 community-base child care resource and referral agencies to ensure Air Force families living off base are able to find civilian community family child care that is comparable to the quality of care provided on Air Force bases by family child care providers who are trained and monitored by base Child Development Centers, run by Air Force Services.

"Child care is among the top concerns we continue to hear from Air Force families across the country," said Toni Koppen, Air Force Family Member Programs chief. "Deploying Airmen worry about the additional child care support their spouses will need

while they are gone serving our country. And Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members called to active duty have the added concern of how their families will afford the extra childcare needed."

The CCR&Rs will provide services in the 13 locations where the Air Force childcare need is greater than the Air Force installation family child care center capacity.

To ensure that Air Force families receive comparable care from trained providers, each CCR&R will replicate the Air Force family child care system, including staffing and oversight, training and technical assistance, screening, approval and monitoring of providers, and business support services such as resource material and equipment.

Through this project, the Air Force will gain access to 750 to 1,000 high quality off base family childcare spaces in 13 communities throughout the United States. This will greatly enhance the Air Force's ability to reduce waiting lists at the child development centers.

The amount of financial assistance will vary for each family and will depend upon factors such as total family income, geographical locations, military services childcare fee policies, and available funding, as well as certain family circumstances.

Eligible families can call the Child Care Aware hotline at 1-800-424-2246 or go on-line at [www.childcareaware.org](http://www.childcareaware.org) for help with applying for the subsidy and location assistance.

## Missoula Children's Theater hosts art camp

By Dale Mitcham  
99<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

The Missoula Children's Theater is hosting the Family Member Programs Performing Arts Camp in Missoula, Mont. Youth ages 14 to 18 can participate in one of two sessions scheduled June 5-11 and July 24-30 as part of the 2005 Nell Buckley Performing Arts Series. Priority consideration will be given to first-time applicants. Audition tapes and applications will be used to select the participants. Individuals who previously participated in the Air Force Family and Teen Talent Show may use that tape as their audition tape for the Performing Arts Camp. Campers receive one full week of voice, acting, and dance lessons, as well as waterfront activities such as swimming, boating, arts, crafts, and campfires.

The camps are geared toward young people who are engrossed in the performing arts.

"This can be life enriching experience for the camper," Bob Garcia, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., community center director, said. "Our young people are given the opportunity to pursue a dream that could turn into a future career. Maybe it could even change their lives."

Mr. Garcia noted that the selection process is extremely competitive. "We currently have only three individuals who've expressed an interest in attending the camp," he said.

The Air Force is paying for camp registration, lodging, food and round-trip transportation. The camp is located at rustic Seeley Lake near Missoula. Eight camp-

Continued on Page 10

## USAFE names Services award winners

U.S. Air Forces in Europe recently announced the winners of the USAFE 2005 Gen. Curtis E. LeMay and Maj. Gen. Eugene L. Eubank Services awards.

The awards recognize outstanding services programs and customer service.

The winners are:

General LeMay, large base category - 48th Services Squadron, Royal Air Force Lakenheath, United Kingdom.

General Eubank, small base category - 52nd Services Squadron, Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany.

Each base will receive \$25,000 to further improve programs and customer service.

Both winners will now compete at the Air Force level. (USAFNS)

## Services helps parents with new 'Mildly Ill' initiative

Meeting the various needs of working parents is a daily occurrence for Air Force Services, but finding temporary care when children fall ill is usually left to the parents.

But it doesn't have to be that way, according to Air Force Services Agency officials.

Under the umbrella of the Family Child Care Program, a special initiative, Mildly Ill Care, helps take the pressure off parents who most often cannot stay at home with ill children due to the mission.

"It's always tough on parents when they have to make other child care arrangements when their children are ill," said Sherry Patterson, Air Force Services Agency. "It has a direct impact on the mission and can often significantly increase their child care expenses. With one or both parents being deployed it is even more difficult and stressful to find alternate care.

We are proud to offer care in licensed homes where providers have received specialized training from medical staff so parents can stay on duty."

Using specially contracted Air Force licensed affiliated Family Child Care Homes, this program provides care for children ages 12 and younger with mild illnesses and conditions that prevent them from using their usual group care or attending school.

Eligible users are active duty members, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve, and DOD civilians assigned to or living on the installation. First priority is given to parents whose children are currently enrolled in the child development, school-age and family child care programs; however, all eligible children can use the program simply by completing an enrollment form obtainable from any of the program locations.

### **Art Camp, continued from Page 9**

ers will share a single-sex cabin with a volunteer counselor. Meals will be served at the camp dining hall. Campers must bring their own bedding or sleeping bag.

In addition to the camps, two Missoula staff members will be visiting Nellis AFB Aug. 8-13 to put on a production of "Pinocchio."

"Last year they staged 'The Frog Prince' and it was very well received. The Missoula people held auditions for base youths and cast the production. After three days of rehearsal, they were ready," he said. This year's performance will be Aug. 12-13 in the Nellis base theater.

# Armed Forces Entertainment supporting the war effort

By Maj. Sherry Turner  
Armed Forces Entertainment

As the reputation of Armed Forces Entertainment continues to grow with each outstanding entertainment group that deploys, so does the need for even more entertainment to our troops in Southwest Asia.

Southwest Asia is one of six circuits supported by AFE; it's also the largest, with new camps being established on a continuous basis. Marine Corps Capt. Josh Anderson has been manager for this particular circuit, composed of 183 (and counting) sites, for eight months. He knows first hand the challenges and importance of sending quality entertainment to boost the morale



Marine Capt. Josh Anderson, manager for the Southwest Asia circuit of Air Force Entertainment, plans future SWA trips. Photo by Master Sgt. John Martin

of each and every service member deployed there.

According to Captain Anderson, transportation and finding entertainers willing to go into places such as Iraq and Afghanistan are the most difficult and challenging things about his circuit.

"The large majority of sites are expeditionary and accessible via rotary air or surfaces movements only," he said. "Commercial air is only available in a handful of countries so we are heavily reliant on military C-130 transports to move our tours to major logistical bases within the theater where they have access to rotary aircraft and follow on transport to the forward operating bases. We're always subject to threat conditions, weather, maintenance issues, fuel concerns and being bumped due to higher priority missions."

Captain Anderson has actually been assigned to AFE for almost 18 months, but just in the short period he's been managing the SWA circuit, he's coordinated 38 tours, which resulted in 336 shows in 11 countries.

"As the intensity of operations has increased and commands have developed their facilities and installation in the Area of Operation, there has been a call for more and more entertainment," he said

He also faces constant rotation of site coordinators and support personnel making continuity a never-ending concern. "The use of civilian personnel and GS employees have been our life blood over the last several years, providing

continuity where we need it the most" said Captain Anderson.

Captain Anderson sends a variety of entertainment to SWA. Bands of all genres, NFL cheerleaders and World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. wrestlers go over extremely well, but given the need "to get these folks to the forward locations, we need to keep the groups small and highly mobile to reach as many service members as possible, as far forward as possible," he said.

Armed Forces Entertainment, established by the Department of Defense in 1951, sends only the best entertainers overseas. Every week new tour groups deploy to more than 370 installations, camps and/or bases. There the entertainers play for, mingle with, and entertain troops (and wherever possible, family members).

Captain Anderson has had the opportunity to work with celebrities and non-celebrities alike and while the preparation and logistics to deploy a tour can be tedious, the end result is what it's all about – smiles on the faces of those we support.

Captain Anderson feels a deep commitment to, and respect for our Service men and women overseas.

"There is a war going on and we have a mission to boost the morale of the service member by bringing a taste of home to those deployed," he said. "Small breaks in their routine are absolutely vital to take his or her mind off the stresses of combat and stability operations for a moment. They are really grateful to have our entertainers."

# Armed Forces Entertainment rockin' the Pacific

By Maj. Sherry Turner  
Armed Forces  
Entertainment

In keeping with its tradition of providing outstanding, live entertainment for our troops and family members overseas, Armed Forces Entertainment once again entertained thousands of troops in the Pacific during the month of October.

The band, **Escovedo Project**, started things off. As a Latin band recently accepted into AFE's entertainment program for their unique and multi-influenced musical flavor, the group traveled throughout Guam, Korea, Kwajalein

and Japan during their 31-day tour.

The six member band was a crowd pleaser at every installation visited and because of their sensational sound, the group was further contracted to perform at Okinawa's annual Oktoberfest Oct. 16 and 17 by the Marine Corps Community Service, Camp Foster, at the end of their AFE tour.

Two additional groups who supported Okinawa's Oktoberfest are **SR71** and **Plunge**. Based out of Baltimore, Md., these two groups kicked things into high gear at the festival. **SR71**, known for their hits



**Plunge performs at Okinawa, Japan's, Oktoberfest. Courtesy photo**

such as "Right Now," "Tomorrow," and "1985," which was recently recorded by **Bowling For Soup** just had their album "Here We Go Again" released in Japan during this tour.

**Plunge's** album "Hometown Hero," was also released in Europe a few days later. High energy and just all around fun describes the members of these groups. Mitch Scherr, **SR71**, and Mike Ruocco, **Plunge**, lead singers for the groups, ensured their audiences received performances that were nothing short of incredible.

Despite transporting tons of equipment, being stranded by a typhoon in Okinawa

and experiencing a huge earthquake in Japan, these guys took everything in stride and never let their spirits dampen.

Speaking of energy, AFE also had the privilege to send Billy Blanks (founder of Tae Bo – cardio kickboxing) to Korea in support of Kunsan Air Base's Wolf Pack Fitness Center grand opening in October.

Mr. Blanks not only conducted a workout session that left most of the participants huffing and puffing, but also spent time after the session to answer questions on health, fitness and targeting of problem areas.

Mr. Blanks truly believes in keeping busy meeting and working out with the

troops as demonstrated by his willingness to conduct as many as three workouts daily to accommodate the demands for his training.

Last, but not least, **waking Norman**, an up-and-coming rock band from Dallas, Texas, captured audiences and increased their fan base with their blend of pop, rock, jazz and funk.

Playing a mixture of original and cover tunes, the five-piece band, led by singer Troy Mayfield, entertained troops throughout Alaska.

Feedback from the audience about the band: "They totally rock!"

And this was only in the Pacific circuit.



**Billy Blanks, founder of Tae Bo cardio kickboxing, flies to Kunsan Air Base, Korea, in a Blackhawk. Courtesy photo**



# ***Air Force clubs take steps to increase membership, benefits***

Recognizing the need to continually improve club members' benefits, Air Force clubs have taken several initiatives to enhance club membership and ensure members are well taken care of whether on active duty, retired, or deployed.

Air Force Clubs offer a free 180-day complimentary membership to all retiring Air Force active duty, Reservist, DOD civilian and NAF regular employees. Anyone wishing to obtain the complimentary membership must do so within 90 calendar days after his or her retirement date. The retiree receives his or her membership with no dues payable for 180 calendar days, and is granted full

benefits, including Members First discounts, check cashing privileges and many others. After 180 days, normal membership dues are charged.

Also dues rates for members who live outside a 50-mile radius from the closest Air Force base are at least 50 percent off of the regular active duty dues rate.

With many active duty club members being deployed, they can now have their membership dues waived for the duration of their deployment. Membership dues can be waived during deployment to a contingency location for 30 days or more, where there is no Air Force club. The home base also has the

option to provide coupons in the amount of the monthly dues. The person being deployed must notify the club before deployment.

Because many current and potential members are eligible for membership in both officers and enlisted clubs, bases may offer people eligible for membership in both, a reduced rate for joining both clubs.

Those who are interested in dual membership should contact their local club for details.

Initiatives taken with regard to dues are examples of the enhanced benefits provided to club members, according to Air Force Services Agency officials.

## ***The human side to NAF Transformation***

By Sherron Christmas  
Air Force Services Agency

There have been several articles written on the mechanics of NAF Transformation. Probably the most important element has been left out of the discussion: What is the effect on our people in Services?

Discussions about NAF Transformation inevitably turn to questions about NAF staff reductions. In most cases the employees at the NAF AO have been there for years and have built personal relationships with the activity staffs.

NAF Transformation doesn't just change jobs; it changes lives, and that is scary for our people.

We know what APF positions are being eliminated and when. We know what functions will no longer be performed by the NAF AO. We

know who is currently performing those functions. What don't we know? With the changing implementation schedule we don't know with certainty when staff reductions will take place. We don't know exactly how the workflow will change. We don't know what employees are going to leave between now and implementation.

Based on what we know and don't know, we need to ask what strategies can we put in place to limit the impact on our staff.

First, look at your current staff. What positions will no longer be needed? What positions will stay? What positions may stay but change with NAF Transformation? Ask how you can best position those personnel who you expect to be with you when you transition so they are least affected. Can you start to cross train individuals? Who do you expect to leave and if that is an affected position can you leave it

vacant? It is not too soon to plan for personnel changes. Last, you need to let the staff know that you have a plan and involve them in the process where you can.

King Whitney Jr. said in "Motivation Quotations," "Change has a considerable psychological impact on the human mind. To the fearful it is threatening because it means that things may get worse. To the hopeful it is encouraging because things may get better. To the confident it is inspiring because the challenge exists to make things better."

In our workforce we will find people who fit into all the categories. The challenge is to address their issues from their perspective, keep them informed, and remember that NAF Transformation is more than streamlining paperwork, gaining efficiencies and reducing overhead costs.

# FROM THE FIELD

## Dover teens retreat bound

By April Crampton  
436<sup>th</sup> Services  
Squadron

Teens involved in the Dover Air Force Base, Del., Youth Center Teen Program are working hard to make money to go to the Teen Retreat and Seminar at the Fernwood Resort in Pennsylvania to learn positive ways to handle important issues.

"The teens have been participating in fund-raisers such as bake sales, candy sales, sub sandwich sales and more to make money," said Willa Pembleton, 436<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron youth center teen coordinator. "The fund-raisers will be ongoing throughout the summer. Many teens enrolled in the Youth Employment Services program are volunteering their time in community services to help lower the cost of the trip."

"We have had a positive response from our Teen Supreme committee, some of their friends and the parents," said Gary

Winings, Youth Center director. "They have been helping wherever they can and so far the teens have raised approximately half of the total funds needed for the retreat."

Many teens contribute their time towards community service at the Youth Center.

"I have been volunteering from 8 a.m. to about 5 p.m. working the scoreboard and keeping records for the basketball leagues on Saturdays for the last six weeks," said Gerald Rocha, 15. "The time I'm donating helps lower the cost of my trip to the Teen Retreat and Seminar."

The retreat will be held Aug. 5-7. During the retreat the teens will be encouraged to communicate with mentors and facilitators in seminars and open forums.

"The primary goal of the Retreat and Seminar is to help with teen mental, physical and social self enhancement while promot-

ing positive choices," said Mrs. Pembleton. "Some of the subjects covered are team building, higher education, scholarships, peer pressure, teen domestic violence, communication, health issues, and many more."

Teens who are DOD cardholders and 12 ½ to 18 years old with a current youth center membership can participate in the Teen Retreat and Seminar.

"Our goal is to have 41 Dover Air Force Base teens attend this retreat," said Mrs. Pembleton. "We will need at least nine interested adults to

chaperon during this weekend retreat. Andrews AFB, Md., and McGuire AFB, N.J., are other bases that are attending the Seminar."

Mrs. Pembleton explained that it took about 18 months for the committee of teens and adults to plan the retreat, set up the representatives from the military and community support agencies and other bases to participate, plan and hold the fund-raisers.

"We are excited to be able to offer and participate in something focused specifically for teens," said Mr. Winings.



From left, Gerald Rocha, 15, and James Dobbins, 17, operate the basketball scoreboard and keep records for the youth basketball league at the Dover Air Force Base, Del., Youth Center. The teens donate time at the center to lower the cost of their trip to the Teen Retreat and Seminar, scheduled for Aug. 5 through 7. Photo by April Crampton

# Officials announce 2005 Hennessy Trophy winners

**By Steve VanWert**  
**Air Force Services Agency**

Air Force Services Agency officials announced the winners of the 2005 John L. Hennessy Jr. Trophy Awards.

Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., is the winner in the single-facility category, and Hurlburt Field, Fla., is the winner in the multiple-facility category.

The Air Force Reserve Command award winner is the 919<sup>th</sup> Services Flight at Duke Field, Fla. The Air

National Guard winner is the 140<sup>th</sup> Services Flight at Aurora Air National Guard Base, Colo.

The U.S. Air Forces in Europe Food Service Small site award winner is the 702<sup>nd</sup> Munitions Support Squadron, Buechel Air Station, Germany. The Air Force Space Command Missile Feeding Award winner is the 90<sup>th</sup> Space Wing, F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo.

The Hennessy Trophy is an annual award presented to Air Force installations with the best food service programs. This year

marks the 49<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the single and multiple facility category competition.

Awards are based on the entire scope of an installation's food service program. Winners must display excellence in management effectiveness, force-readiness support, food quality, employee and customer relations, resource conservation, training and safety awareness. Awards will be presented at the National Restaurant Association Show on May 21 in Chicago, Ill.



## *Enjoying the best lunch in the AF*

Airmen enjoy lunch at the Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., Thunderbird Inn, the best dining facility in the Air Force. Col. Hank Andrews, 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing commander, informed the dining facility's staff that they had won the 2005 John L. Hennessy Trophy. This award follows two consecutive wins in the Gold Plate competition presented for the best dining facility in the Air Force Materiel Command, headquartered at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. The Thunderbird Inn, managed by Vick's Vittles, is under a contract to the New Mexico Commission for the Blind. Photo by Todd Berenger

See related story, next page



# Kirtland wins 2005 Hennessy

The Thunderbird Inn, the military dining facility at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., has won the 2005 John L. Hennessy Jr. Trophy awarded annually to the best dining facility in the Air Force.

Col. Hank Andrews, 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing commander, informed the dining facility's staff. This award follows two consecutive wins for the Gold Plate competition presented for the best dining facility in the Air Force Materiel Command, headquartered at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

The Hennessy team, consisting of industry representa-

tives, evaluated the Thunderbird Inn over a period of several days starting on Feb. 9. The team inspected the dining facility's kitchen operations, serving and dining operations, training, personnel and readiness, sanitation and repair and maintenance and management.

The Thunderbird Inn, managed by Vick's Vittles, is under a contract to the New Mexico Commission for the Blind.

The Hennessy Award Program is sponsored by the National Restaurant Association, Society for Food Service Management and the International Food Services



Second Lt. Devanie Bridges, 377<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron, hugs Robert Vick, corporate executive officer of Vick's Vittles, the dining facility food service contractor, after Col. Hank Andrews, 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing commander, announced that the Thunderbird Inn had won the 2004 John L. Hennessy Trophy. Tech. Sgt. Brenda McLain, food services superintendent, is at the right. The trophy is presented to the best dining facility in the Air Force by the National Restaurant Association, the Society of Food Service Management and the International Food Services Executives. Photo by Dennis Carlson

Executives Association.

The trophy will be presented to Air Force base representatives during an annual National Restaurant Association meeting and exposition to be held later this year. The award is named after a restaurant owner and industry leader assigned to the Hoover Commission, charged with improving military food service.



Griller Juan Ortiz, an employee of Vicks Vittles, cooks chicken filets in the best dining facility in the Air Force. Photo by Todd Berenger



Col. Hank Andrews, 377<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing commander at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M., congratulates Robert Vick, corporate executive officer of Vick's Vittles, on winning the 2005 John L. Hennessy Trophy. Photo by Dennis Carlson



# Nellis young people eligible for Congressional Award Program

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***The Olympics may be long over, but individuals at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., can still go for the "gold" by participating in the Congressional Award Program.***

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**By Dale Mitcham  
99<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron**

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The Olympics may be long over, but individuals at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., can still go for the "gold" by participating in the Congressional Award Program.

Individuals from 14 to 23 years of age can earn certificates and medals for satisfying criteria in the four program areas. The Congressional Award has no minimum grade point average requirements. It accommodates young people with special needs or disabilities who are willing to take the challenge.

The areas are:

Volunteer public service activities must be performed without pay, compensation or school credit. Individuals should provide a direct service, rather than focus on issues. When setting goals, they identify activities that benefit the community at large.

Personal development expands personal horizons while developing individual interests, social and life skills. The award challenges individuals to pursue a new interest or advance to another level in an ongoing interest, through personal development activities.

Participants must keep a record book that indicates their present level and then identify specific skills or new knowledge, which they will achieve.

Individuals must improve their quality of life through participation in fitness activities. The program challenges

them to set and achieve a measurable goal in a physical activity. Both team sports and individual activities are acceptable as long as the activities lead to an improved performance or greater physical fitness.

The aim of individual expedition or exploration should be to develop a spirit of adventure and discovery. Organizing, planning, training and completing the expedition or exploration area requires self-reliance, determination and cooperation.

Expeditions are typically outdoor excursions that include camping, hiking and wilderness activities. This usually forces the participant to forgo the comforts of home and learn to pack and prepare equipment, set up a tent and cook food over an open fire.

Explorations are trips that provide the participant with a new cultural experience. These may include living on a farm, traveling to a foreign country, or exploring a new environment. Explorations involve preliminary research and preparation.

Challenges may include language barriers, traveling great distances or learning new tasks.

According to Kat Pauley, 99<sup>th</sup> Services, approximately 35 individuals are currently involved in the program here between the youth and community centers.

When an individual earns a Bronze or Silver medal, they receive it locally. If someone earns a Gold medal, he or she receives it in Washington, D.C. at the U.S. Capital.

# Dining facility renovations improve Kadena quality of life

By Senior Airman Anna Fitzhorn  
18th Wing Public Affairs

Airmen can now enjoy a more modern-day sports-bar motif while dining at the Kadena Marshall Dining Facility, thanks to a \$60,000 renovation project completed recently.

According to Jay Fountain, the 18th Services Squadron facility project assistant, the inside of the dining facility was totally renovated. "The old cafeteria-style interior is gone and instead the facility now resembles a modern-day restaurant," he said.

To turn the "cafeteria" into a "restaurant," two cyber-cafes with a total of four internet-accessible computers were added, as well as guitars, saxophones and a full drum set, plus original artwork, all to help create the musical/sports bar theme. The facility also put in two "sports-bar-like" recessed dining areas complete with a wall of five TV's each.

Even with the new look, the facility is still just for Airmen. Airman 1st Class Kimberly Drummond, 18th SVS food production chef, said she's heard Airmen haven't been sitting in the upper sections because they think it's for distinguished visitors. "Totally not true," she said. "The upper levels are for all customers to use. The renovation was to make the dining facility more appealing to all Airmen, not to exclude them."

"That says a lot about the planning, and quality of life emphasis, which went into this renova-



**Airman Michael Annini, 18th Aerospace Medicine Squadron flight medic, enjoys lunch at Kadena Air Base, Japan's Marshall Dining Facility. The 18th Services Squadron completed a \$60,000 renovation project recently, significantly improving the facility's ambiance and utility through a "sports bar" decor and cyber-cafe services. Photo by Senior Airman Mercedes McAlister**

tion," said Brig. Gen. Jan-Marc Jouas, 18th Wing commander, "and it sends the right message — our Airmen are the DVs."

The renovation project was estimated to cost more than \$145,000, but with self-help from the 18th SVS Maintenance and Contracting Team, 18th Civil Engineer Group and numerous volunteers, the facility was able to save more than \$80,000 in the renovation work.

Mr. Fountain said the goal of the project was to make the facility

more attractive and inviting to its clientele.

"We had a vision of how [Airmen] wanted it to look and we created that for them," he said. "The work was for those Airmen who come here day in and day out."

Airman 1st Class Lindsay Shaw, 18th Equipment Maintenance Squadron aircraft structural maintenance, said she likes the new look. "It makes it easier for those who want to sit, eat and relax, as well as for those who want to sit, eat and get out," she said.

# Wright-Pat children show support for troops

**By Mike Wallace  
Wright-Patterson Air  
Force Base, Ohio,  
Skywrighter staff**

About 14 children, ages 2 to 5, in Room 2 of the School Age and Hourly Care Program at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio's Kittyhawk Center wanted to somehow show their support for military members serving in Iraq, so they recently sent a banner and other items to Alpha Company of the Army's 1st Battalion, 77th Armor Regiment. The company commander, in turn, sent the children a letter and picture of some of the unit's people.

The children and their care providers, Teva Custard and Jackie Shannon, began asking family members if they knew anyone serving in Iraq.

Ms. Custard said one parent had a friend stationed there, so the project began.

The banner was a sheet on which the children applied their hand-prints in red, white and blue paints and wrote their names beside their prints.

The children also made cards thanking the troops for their service and brought pictures of themselves to put in the package. Some children also colored pictures for inclusion. They signed the package "to all the men and women of the United States military. Thank you."

The children received a letter from the Alpha company commander and a certificate of appreciation for the children's "outstanding support to the soldiers ... during their service in Operation Iraqi Freedom II."

It further stated that the children's "willingness to support these soldiers is immeasurable for their

morale and welfare while in Iraq."

The letter also said "We received your wonderful package of support messages. Thank you very much. I know that you have your own military community there with you, so your willingness to support the Army so far away is nice.

"Mrs. Lundy (Becky Lundy, a volunteer at the Wright-Patterson Family Support Center) sent your support box to us. Her husband and I are old college roommates and still good friends. Good work is being done here and things are getting better. Today we are visiting a school to share supplies with the children. Also, we are working on

building a youth center in the village I support so that the kids have a place to hang out at and play, so not all of the news from here is bad. Once again, thank you for your support."

Capt. Kevin Bolke, Alpha company commander, signed the letter.

"We're all in this together," said Jennifer Spurgin, chief of family member programs. "We work for the families and our troops. We don't care which branch of the service a person is in; we're taking care of their kids."

Ms. Custard, a Fairborn, Ohio, resident, has worked at the center for seven years.

Teva Custard, child care provider for the School Age and Hourly Care Program at the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, Kittyhawk Center, reads to Isabelle McAlpine and Kesley Walter. The three were part of a group from Room 2 that sent a banner, cards and photos to an Army unit serving in Iraq. The unit's commander sent them a letter of appreciation. Courtesy photo



# And the wINNer is ... Lackland, again

By Wayne Amann  
37th Services Division

The first thing visitors at Lackland's Gateway Inn see to their right as they walk toward the front door is the "Wall of Fame," chronicling its run as the top large lodging facility in the Air Education and Training Command and the Air Force.

Whoever updates that wall has some work to do because the Inns of Lackland claimed the AETC Services Inns of Excellence Award again, its fifth such honor in the last six years.

"The greatest thing about winning any lodging award is it means we're giving our guests quality customer service," 37<sup>th</sup> Services Division Lodging General Manager Don Johnson said. "That's what we're here to do."

Lackland and Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, the small category winner for the second straight year, will represent AETC at the 2005 Air Force Innkeeper Award competition. Headquarters AETC Services will allocate \$40,000 in Non-Appropriated Funds to the Lackland Lodging Operation and \$20,000 in NAF funding to the Laughlin Lodging Operation (Laughlin Manor), to help prepare for the Air Force level competitions.

The Air Force Innkeeper Award Evaluation Team arrives here in June. The Inns of Lackland will be vying for its fourth bluesuiter title in six years.

More than 120,000 guests visit Lackland annually, spending one-million nights in the 2,800 rooms housed in 43 buildings. More than 99 percent expressed satisfaction



From left behind counter, Gateway Inn lodging clerks Sandra Salazar and Valerie Kaye help customers. Photo by Wayne Amann

with their stay last year at the largest hotel in the Department of Defense, making it the 18<sup>th</sup> largest in the world.

"When you deal with nearly 2,800 people every day there's always a new challenge," said Mr. Johnson, a 46-year lodging veteran. "If you make 99.9 percent happy, you've still got a few left to please."

At command level Lackland was judged on innovative programs above and beyond normal activity programming, exceptional customer service satisfaction examples, facility improvements, recognition programs, training programs and other accomplishments.

Among the more significant improvements guests enjoyed here during the evaluation period was the high-speed internet service installed in all 123 distinguished visitor suites and another 500 rooms under an AETC funded renovation project.

A high-tech surveillance system added safety and security at a 264-room off-base complex.

Electronic marquees were installed in lobbies to arm travelers on the latest Lackland information.

Lackland guests stay in shape around-the-clock thanks to 18 new units of strength training and cardio fitness equipment in the lodging fitness center.

State-of-the-art amenities aside, the Inns of Lackland wins with people, specifically its 475 employees.

"They don't appear on our property listing and they don't depreciate. They're simply our most important asset," Mr. Johnson stressed. "They appreciate being treated as part of the 'company' and respond to that attention by making us look good."

What's next for the Inns of Lackland? The wall says it all.



## Laughlin AETC innkeeper award winner

### Courtesy of 47<sup>th</sup> Services Division

Laughlin Manor claimed the Air Education and Training Command Services Inns of Excellence Award recently as the top small lodging facility in the command, its second consecutive year.

"We are an award-winning lodging facility because the Manor staff give their 100 percent best everyday to our guests," said Kathy

Harting, 47<sup>th</sup> Services Division lodging manager.

Laughlin and Lackland Air Force Bases, the large category winner, will represent the AETC at the 2005 Air Force Innkeeper Award competition. Headquarters AETC Services will allocate \$20,000 in non-appropriated funds to Laughlin's lodging operation to help prepare for the Air Force-level competition.

The Air Force Innkeeper Award

Evaluation Team arrives at Laughlin in June.

Laughlin Manor is the 2004 Air Force Innkeeper winner, making them the top small base lodging in the Air Force.

More than 36,000 guests visit Laughlin annually, with 99 percent of guests leaving completely satisfied with their stay.

In the AETC competition, Laughlin was

judged on innovative programs above and beyond normal activity programming, exceptional customer service satisfaction examples, facility improvements, recognition programs, training programs and other accomplishments.

One significant improvement will be the completion of phase one of the Military Housing Temporary Lodging Facility conversion.

The \$562,000 project will replace

the current one-bedroom units with two-and three-bedroom units.

The units will also have full size living rooms, kitchens and dining rooms.

Also, a high-tech surveillance system adds safety and security to the visitor's quarters.

"The staff is what make Laughlin Manor the best," Mrs. Harting said. "We will be Air Force's best again this year, bar none."

## 28th SVS offers week of daily \$ deals

### By Lt. Sarah Schipman Black Hills Bandit staff

Ellsworth people searched their couch cushions and broke open their piggy banks recently. Those extra dollars they had laying around stretched a lot further during the Ellsworth Air Force Base, S.D.'s Services Dollar Days recently.

Each day of the week, a facility in the 28th Services Squadron featured a \$1 special.

"This is the first time we've ever done this promotion," said Destiny Geiger, 28th SVS marketing director.

The Youth Center kicked off the week with \$1 bingo. Tuesday's dollar deals were \$1 for the evening playland at the Black Hills Community Center. The Skills Development

Center also had \$1 picture frame mats Tuesday.

"Wednesday was one of our biggest deals for the week," Ms. Geiger said. During that day, the Auto Skills Center offered tire rotations for \$1 per tire.

Bandit Lanes had a special Thursday with its \$1 per game deal.

"One deal we really wanted to focus on this time was the Dollar Days deal at Dakota's," Ms. Geiger said. Dakota's offered \$1 appetizers. "We thought an appetizer special is something everyone can take advantage of," said Dean Warrington, Dakota's Club manager.

"We hope that people saw some of the changes we've made at the club and see some of the fun things that are going on both here at the

club and in services base-wide," Mr. Warrington said.

One of the fun things Dakota's did in conjunction with the Dollar Days deal was a video game tournament. The club hosted a free X Box Halo tournament in the enlisted lounge.

The deals continued with \$1 ski rentals at Outdoor Recreation.

On Sunday, the community center had a \$1 Family Day, and the indoor pool at the Bellamy Fitness Center had open swim for \$1.

The 28th SVS marketing department plans to do a Dollar Days week quarterly.

"I want to have different specials each time we do this, so people will have something new to try and to look forward to," Ms. Geiger said.

# 'Heartlink' offers easy transition, tools for new military spouses

**By 2nd Lt. Tara Brown**  
47th Operations  
Support Squadron

"LES, CGO, MPF, NCO, SEA, FSC?" Alphabet soup, or a new military spouse's acronym nightmare?

Air Force spouses, male and female, with less than five years experience can learn about "Air Force-speak," acronyms, customs and courtesies and more from the Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, Family Support Center-sponsored Heartlink program.

Eighteen new spouses turned out for the February program in the FSC conference room.

Through the door of the conference room, each spouse found a treasure of information immediately available. A folder, provided to each attendee, held a variety of information, and pamphlets such as the "AETC Spouse Handbook: Your Guide to Success," "Balancing

Work and Life in the U.S. Air Force," "Protocol Handbook," and even a page on the Air Force Song.

In addition, helpful handouts like "Looking for Employment?" and the "Portable Career and Virtual Assistant Training Program" provided links to career opportunities on-line and in the local community.

"Heartlink' gives spouses a tour of Air Force lifestyle," said Sabrina Peña, director of the Laughlin Family Support Center. Speaking from experience, she differentiated between the civilian sector and the military workplace. "(The civilian workplace is) not like the military lifestyle. You come into the military, and now you're doing functions together and interacting outside the workplace much more often," she said.

Along with the other staff members of the Family

Support Center, it is Mrs. Peña's job to transition each spouse from the environment of the civilian workplace to the active engagement of the military life.

That task requires teaching spouses about rules of engagement, base operations, history, finance, TRICARE, unit organizations, Servicemembers Group Life Insurance, Air Force ceremonies, honors to the flag, and even force protection conditions.

Once the spouses had a tool kit of knowledge, it was time to play the "Who wants to be a Mighty Spouse?" Jeopardy-style game and demonstrate what he or she learned.

"What is the Leave and Earnings Statement?" correctly answered Ashley Heyman, wife of Capt. Alexander Heyman, an 85th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot.



Emily Brown, wife of Airman 1st Class Cie-J Brown from the 47th Operations Support Squadron, uses the Heartlink program as her first opportunity to shake, take (the Air Force Spouse coin), and salute Col. Tod Wolters, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, upon graduation from the Heartlink program. Mrs. Brown and 18 other spouses attended the program in February at the Laughlin Family Support Center. Courtesy photo

Mrs. Heyman said she learned a lot about resources available she previously didn't know how to access. In the past, she said she made all her connections through work, but now she is able to meet spouses on base and build friendships through Heartlink.

In the end, each spouse walked away

with a new support network because, according to Mrs. Peña, "The best resource is sitting at the table right beside you."

Overall, the Heartlink program is an overview of military operations; more importantly though, it recognizes the spouses' vital role in every servicemembers' success.

# Nellis Services teaches first-term Airmen how to play

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***"We are in the quality of life business. From the moment they get up to go to work in the morning to the time they return to the dormitory to go to bed, our facilities impact their lives."***  
***-- Kellie Mendonca***  
***99th Service Marketing***

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**By Dale Mitcham**  
**99th Services Marketing**

An old adage says "all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." The life of a first-term Airman can be dull, confusing, lonely and even dangerous depending on the duty assignment.

The Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., 99th Services Squadron portion of the First Term Airmen's Center Program is designed to show the newly-assigned Airmen that there is more to their new home than the job and a dormitory room -- much more.

"What occurs during FTAC Services Days is hands-on fun," said Kellie Mendonca, 99th Services marketing director. "The Airmen are taken by bus to our various facilities and given the opportunity to experience them first hand."

A typical day starts out at 10 a.m. and ends about 3 p.m. They visit the Outdoor Recreation facility, bowling center, arts and crafts center, library, enlisted club and information tickets and tours. Depending on availability, they also visit the golf course and rod and gun club. The staff at each facility provides a walking tour and a demonstration.

"While at the bowling center, the Airmen are treated to lunch, a free game of bowling and instruction if they needed it," Ms. Mendonca said.

The role Services plays in the life of all Air Force members, especially first-termers is important.

"We are in the quality of life business. From the moment they get up to go to work in the morning to the time they return to the dormitory to go to bed, our facilities impact their lives," she said.

FTAC is designed to aid all first-duty-stationed Airmen with their transition from a systematic and regimented environment into a hands-on employment of the Airmen's skills, knowledge and training gained from technical school and Basic Military Training.

FTAC takes Airmen from that training environment and transitions them into a mission-oriented environment with special emphasis on aerospace expeditionary force.

While in FTAC, Airmen spend two weeks in briefings learning the ropes of being a successful Air Force member.

"Classes start at 7 a.m. and continue until 4 p.m.," FTAC Instructor Staff Sgt. Allison Gonzales said. "I think the program is great. It reduces the disruption caused by a lot of in-processing appointments at their duty section once they report in."

According to Sergeant Gonzales, the program is constantly evolving and being improved to make it more effective and productive.

"I've had three classes so far and they all have been different," she said. "We receive critiques from the Airmen and review them to see if the comments have points we can address. This program gives Airmen the tools to fit in and be successful team members and assets to their organization," she said.

# Nellis 4H Clubs teach life skills to youth

**By Dale Mitcham**  
**99<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron**

For many, lyrics from the vintage television show "Green Acres" pop into mind when they hear the words "4H Club."

The show was a situation comedy about an urban couple transplanted to the mythical farming community of Hooterville.

According to Carol Padilla, Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Youth Center director, 4H isn't just about raising live stock and farming anymore. "Today, 4H clubs teach young people life skills and leadership in an effort to prepare them for their futures," she said.

The Nellis Youth Program took part in the Youth Collaboration Project that teamed youth centers with 4H and family advocacy centers in 1999.

Nellis AFB was one of the nine initial Air Force bases that was selected to participate in the program. The Family Advo-

cacy Program and the Youth Programs of each of these bases formed a coalition with the local Cooperative Extension/4-H office to find ways to achieve the primary mission.

Each coalition operated as one of that state's State Strengthening Project sites.

According to the director, Nellis has a very strong and impressive program. "We are very fortunate to have a full-time teen director and a strong volunteer program. Cindy (Berg) is an excellent role model for our members as is Molly Hayes, who is one of the volunteers.

"Both, like many of our volunteers, are products of 4H," Ms. Padilla said.

"In the beginning, our program focused on leadership activities for teens," Cindy Berg, teen director, said. "We took outdoor adventure trips to Utah, and dude ranches as well participated in the TRAIL program."

Ms. Berg, who grew up in the 4H program, feels that the Nellis AFB Desert Flyers club offer youth a chance to learn skills that they can use for the rest of their lives.

"Our clubs offer 9 to 18 years youth center members the opportunity to become more well-rounded people and improve their chances of success as young adults," she said. "There are currently three functioning 4H Clubs here that teach sewing, photography and cooking. Many of the members might not learn these skills at home."

In some cases, they learn skills as a result of their participation in 4H that they pass on to their siblings or even parents.

"Many of our parents were 4H kids and appreciate the value of the program," said Ms. Berg. "I owe a great deal of who I am today to 4H. I firmly believe that the program helped develop my character and attitudes on

how to be successful in life

Involvement in the program provides youth with important social skills like public speaking and demonstration.

"Each member must present his or her project to the group at one time or another," Ms. Berg said. "They are required to explain their project and how they were able to complete it. Some of them get so excited about what they have accomplished that they forget they are 'learning something useful' and its just fun to them. A lot of them overcome their shyness and fear of public speaking because they enjoy what they are doing so much and want to share it."

Ms. Padilla said that clubs have had an unexpected benefit to members of the Nellis community. "Some of our participants are home schooled and don't have that much interaction with other children on a daily basis,"

she said. "Participating in 4H gives these children and their counterparts an opportunity to socialize and get to know each other that they not ordinarily have."

More than 7 million youth, ages 5-19, participate in 4-H Youth Development experiences in all 50 U.S. states, its territories and Department of Defense installations worldwide. 4-H Youth Development is the largest non-formal U.S. youth development program that ties public and private resources to the single purpose of supporting the positive and successful development of youth.

According to a two-year study in New York, young people who participate in 4-H do better in school and are more motivated to help others.

According to the study, these young people develop skills in leadership, public speaking, self-esteem, communication, and make lasting friendships.



# Nellis Honor Guard honors with dignity

By Dale Mitcham  
99<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

Airmen at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., have been carrying on the proud Honor Guard tradition for almost as long as the elite ceremonial unit has been in existence.

Volunteers go through an intense two-week training period in order to represent the base, the Air Force and their country. After completing their indoctrination and initial training, the graduates are ready to participate in a wide variety of ceremonial duties. "These duties can range from presenting the colors at a nationally-televised sporting event to delivering a fallen comrade to his or her final resting place," said Tech. Sgt. Mark Thompson, Nellis Honor Guard NCOIC.

In 2004, the unit performed 878 details covering 16 counties in Nevada, Arizona, California and Utah. The team usually ranges between 35 and 45 members.

"To Honor with Dignity" is the motto of the Air Force's elite ceremonial unit. The organizational history spans more than a half century. The U.S. Air Force Honor Guard traces its beginning to May 1948 when Air Force Headquarters Command was instructed to develop plans for an elite ceremonial unit comparable to those of the other Armed Services.

As a result, a ceremonial unit was activated within the Air Police Squadron at Bolling AFB, D.C. in September 1948.

According to Sergeant Thompson, because of their heavy ceremonial commitment, units around the installation are tasked to provide a specified number of volunteers to support the program for a 120-day period. Even though this is his first honor guard assignment, Sergeant Thompson is a former military training instructor who knows what it takes to get the job done.

"It takes a lot of discipline, desire and stamina to be an honor guardsman," he said.

Certain ceremonies may call for the squad to stand for extended periods of time or march in adverse



Members of the Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., Honor Guard performed 878 details covering 16 counties in Nevada, Arizona, California and Utah. The team has between 35 and 45 members, all volunteers. Courtesy photo

conditions or extreme heat. Even though they might not feel their best, they have to look their best. Gone are the days of jump boots laced with parachute cord, berets and ascots with command emblems. Team members are issued ceremonial service dress uniforms to perform in during their rotation. "We take great pride in our appearance and professionalism just as all of those who have preceded us," said the sergeant.

The honor guard program has changed a bit over the years. On his second rotation on the Nellis team, Staff Sgt. Maurice Stubbs is one of the few veterans on the team. "The first time around I was a senior airman," he said, "and got chance to participate in all the 'fun' stuff. Now that I'm a flight chief, I have a lot more responsibility and must ensure that the trainers and the rest of the team are prepared to perform."

According to Sergeant Stubbs, a prized memory of this honor guard duty is the tour scrap book. "My first tour was great. We did a lot of interesting details and fun things. It was a fantastic group of people. That's why I came back."

Individuals interested in joining the honor guard, should contact their first sergeant or supervisor to find out when the next opportunity to excel begins.

# Services reminds Tallil troops of home

**By Connie Storch**  
**354<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron**  
**Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska**

Whether they're enjoying a movie in the Cricket Cinema, sipping a drink at the Thirsty Scorpion Sports Club or sweating it out to maintain fighting fit physiques at Muscle Beach fitness complex, many people are taking advantage of what Team Services has to offer at Tallil Air Base, Iraq (also known as Ali Air Base).

Services program participants include coalition partners from Holland, Italy and Romania. A team from the 23rd Iraqi Squadron took first in the recent Sports Day volleyball tournament. A Romanian demonstrated superior vocal range, taking first place in the recent Tallil Idol competition. An Italian took second during the 5k run. The

Romanians plan to join in an upcoming dodge ball tournament.

The 32-person Services Team is made up of Airmen from Barksdale Air Force Base, La., and Eielson AFB, Alaska, kept together, focused and united by commanding officer, Capt. Sabrina Jones.

"We have a tremendous team with lots of energy and ideas," said Captain Jones.

Perhaps the highest compliment a customer in a deployed location can pay a Services Team member is, "this reminds me of home." Homesickness can harm morale and detract from job efficiency. Positively channeled distractions and a little fun boost morale.

Senior Master Sgt. Robert of the 407th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron called the fitness facility and equipment "by far one of the best, if not the best facility in the

AOR." Sergeant Appling thanked Tech. Sgt. Edward Lutz for his efforts with the gym and exercise equipment.

Maj. Joseph Deichert, 407th Air Expeditionary Group Chaplain, also appreciates the SVS personnel's genuine interest in their customers. "I wish we could clone the cohesiveness and synergy of the Eielson Airmen for every location,"

He noted that towels, bottled water and clean fitness equipment are always available, no matter the shift, from 4 a.m. to well into the night. Grit-free equipment is not a standard easily maintained, says the Chaplain, "We live in dust."

The key, Major Deichert said is that this is a Services crew that "fully grasps the concept of ownership. Everyone works well together with little thanks, and the rest of us are well-served."



## Kadena youth deploy

Paige Phillips, daughter of Staff Sgt. Brian Phillips, 353rd Special Operations Group, tries out a rugged terrain vehicle at Hangar 2 during Operation Kids Understanding Deployment Operations in March. More than 220 Kadena Air Base, Japan, youth and 90 parents participated in the event sponsored by the Family Support Center and base units. Courtesy photo.

## ***Names, faces in the news***

### ***Three promoted BTZ***

There are three new senior airmen in town. All made their promotions below the zone.

They are:

Senior Airmen Sara Higgins, 18th Services/SVMF, Kadena Air Base, Japan; Justin Franco, 48th SVS/SVMF, Royal Air Force Base Lakenheath, United Kingdom; and Megan Crusher, currently deployed to the 506th Air Expeditionary Group/ESVS.

### ***Taking a big STEP***

Tech. Sgt. Ansel Bingham, 56th Services Squadron, Luke Air Force Base, Ariz., was recently STEP promoted to master sergeant by Air Education and Training Command commander Gen. Donald Cook.

### ***They've got his number***

Senior Master Sgt. Ed Salinas from the 21st Services Squadron, Peterson Air Force Base, Colo., received his promotion line number to chief master sergeant from Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John Jumper, then-Secretary of the Air Force James Roche and Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Gerald Murray. Sergeant Salinas was deployed to the 407th Air Expeditionary Squadron/ESVS in Tallil Air Base, Iraq when he received the surprise presentation.



## ***For me?***

Janie Reyes, left, 17th Contracting Squadron secretary, and Airman 1st Class Amy Wolfe, a 315th Training Squadron student, look at gifts the Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas, Family Support Center was giving away during its recent open house. The FSC held the open house to introduce people to the various programs that are offered and to celebrate the FSC's 21st anniversary. Photo by Airman 1st Class Brok McCarthy



# Bicycle repairs come to Equipment Checkout

Dave Sawicki, 436th Services Squadron Outdoor Recreation manager, tunes up a bicycle for a customer in the new bike workshop at Equipment Checkout at Dover Air Force Base, Del.



**By April Crampton**  
436th Services Squadron

As the weather warms up, thoughts begin peddling through everyone's head of riding bicycles on the trails.

"Before going for the first ride of the season, get your bike tuned up at Equipment Checkout," said Dave Sawicki, 436th Service Squadron Outdoor Recreation manager. "We are offering a full services bike shop now. We can perform everything from patching tires to full service tune-up and rebuilds."

According to Mr. Sawicki, last year

they introduced guided mountain bike trips and noticed some customers had maintenance issues with their bikes out on the trail. They soon realized there was a need for this kind of service not just for mountain bikers, but everyone who owns a bike.

"We found the options for getting bikes fixed is very limited and a bit expensive," said Mr. Sawicki. "Being an avid cyclist, I decided that we'd fill this void here on base, so our customers won't have to go downtown."

Equipment Checkout has three bicycle mechanics

employed at this time. They will be working on all types of bikes such as mountain bikes, bicycle motocross, road, single speed and hybrids.

"Combined, our mechanics have over 20 years experience working on bikes," said Mr. Sawicki.

Tune-ups include the mechanic examining the entire bike. They will be checking tire pressure, adjusting shifters, derailleurs, brakes, degreasing and re-lubing the drive train and lubricating all cables and pivot points, as well as tightening all

parts. The bike will then be washed, so customers get it back looking brand new.

"In addition, we can also upgrade parts and components," said Mr. Sawicki. "We have access to most of the top-of-the-line brands."

"With most repairs, completion times will vary depending upon the complexity and nature of the repair," said Chris Rosebrooks, Equipment Checkout recreation aid.

With the Outdoor Adventures Program gearing up, and more mountain bike

trips planned, Equipment Checkout will be selling biking related items such as gloves, sun glasses, patch kits, tubes, small tool kits and sunscreen.

"If you sign-up for one of our bike trips, we will have the small items available to purchase if you have forgotten something or just need a replacement," said Mr. Sawicki. "We can also special order many items from parts to apparel."

Commuting by bike is a great way to save money and improve your physical and mental well being.



# Laughlin families share Easter fun



Philip Erven III, 2, along with his father Staff Sgt. Philip Erven II of the wing plans and programs office, search for prizes in eggs they found.

**Story, photos by Tech. Sgt. Anthony Hill  
47<sup>th</sup> Flying Training Wing Public Affairs**

More than 600 children, moms and dads turned out for the annual Family Day and Easter Egg Hunt Saturday at the Fiesta Center at Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas.

Thousands of eggs were scattered in the field next to the center, but the eggs were scooped up in a matter of minutes once the call was given to start the hunt.

Activities began with a parade that started in the chapel parking lot and ended at the Fiesta Center. Other activities included a petting zoo, pony rides, a castle bounce slide, and a canine demonstration. A variety of games were also available inside the center for children to play and win prizes.

Family Day, traditionally conducted during Easter weekend, was sponsored by the Fiesta Center and 47<sup>th</sup> Services Division.

The event provided families an opportunity to interact in a fun setting with games and activities in addition to educational displays.



Children charge the Fiesta Center field in their quest to gather Easter eggs during Laughlin's annual Family Day and Easter Egg Hunt.



Lauren Ketchum, 4, daughter of Jennifer and Capt. Steven Ketchum of the 87th Flying Training Squadron, takes advantage of the castle bounce slide.



Azaria Finley, 5, daughter of Jayla and Staff Sgt. Leslie Finley of the 47th Medical Group, takes a pony ride, assisted by Connie Mason.



Assisted by 2nd Lt. Ademola Elliotte of the 47th Services Division, Cody Kyker has fun at the fishing booth. Kyker, 4, is the son of Sharon Kyker, 47th Services Division, and Tech. Sgt. Michael Kyker, 47th Security Forces Squadron.



James Morin, 3, son of David Morin of the 47th Civil Engineer Squadron, finds a hidden stash of Easter eggs during his hunt. Organizers placed about 10 eggs in a hole in the ground in hopes of making the egg hunt more fun and interesting.

# PEOPLE



## Chef performs culinary magic

Francis Aragon flips an omelet as part of his entertaining cooking style, which relies on talent, creativity and heart. Mr. Aragon is a food service worker at Buckley Air Force Base, Colo. Photo by Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class Chris Smith

**By Airman 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
Chris Smith  
460<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing  
Public Affairs**

He is a magician of sorts. But he waves a spatula instead of a wand and uses a frying pan instead of a top hat. Mix in a little culinary artistry, and his "magic" is used to craft eggs, bacon, sausage and hash brown potatoes into cuisine for hungry dining facility patrons.

Food service worker Francis Aragon calls himself a "disco chef" because he makes dining a little more exciting for patrons by turning ordinary

cooking into a spectacle. People who order food from Mr. Aragon will likely see him flipping it in the air, flambéing it or somehow making a show of it.

Although he's only been serving military patrons for about a year, his passion for combining culinary arts with his unique showmanship began at a fast-food restaurant in the Philippines in 1995.

In 1998, he began working at a hotel, preparing kitchen and dining utensils and ensuring proper hygiene and sanitation. A year later, his

cooking had him sailing the seas on a cruise ship, where he worked as a galley steward. When he was promoted to assistant cook for the ship a few years later, he began perfecting his skills with different food preparation and presentation methods, including his disco chef skills.

By the time Mr. Aragon was back on dry land and making his way to Buckley Air Force Base, Colo., his talent in the kitchen was finely tuned, and it has only gotten better, said Tech. Sgt. Dave Beyer, 460th Services

Division chief quality assurance evaluator.

"Francis came to us with fine culinary skills," Sergeant Beyer said. "However, they were enhanced at the [dining facility]. Francis took our display-cooking concept to another level as he experimented and learned how to prepare items for customers and entertain at the same time."

"My aspiration is to give people happiness and for them to enjoy their food," he said. "[I also enjoy] showing them my showmanship in cooking, great plate presentation and the taste [of the food]."

# CAP member receives Congressional Award

Civil Air Patrol Cadet Chris Buck stands outside his home in Centerville, Ohio. He will be awarded the Congressional Award Gold Medal June 22. To receive this honor, he had to set personal goals and complete the required hours in the following areas: 400 hours of volunteer public service, 200 or more hours of personal development, 200 or more hours of physical fitness and expedition/exploration for a minimum of four consecutive overnights.



**By Mike Wallace  
Skywrighter Staff**

A Whiteman Air Force Base, Mo., son is soon to receive the Congressional Award, partially for work done with the 509<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron.

Chris Buck, son of Chief Master Sgt. Arthur Buck, Air Force Materiel Command, has fulfilled all the requirements for the Congressional Award Gold Medal he will receive in ceremonies June 22. The criteria for the medal include hundreds of hours spent in four areas, including voluntary public service, personal development, physical fitness and expedition/exploration.

Established in 1979 under President Jimmy Carter, the Congressional Award was set up to "challenge young people to challenge themselves." Applicants must be between 14 and 23 years old.

Mr. Buck, a senior at Centerville High School, amassed his volunteer hours at Whiteman AFB as an administrative assistant with 509<sup>th</sup> Services and assistant supply clerk with the 509<sup>th</sup> Security Forces. For the latter, he performed inventory work and ran the security supply room during a base exercise.

For Mr. Buck, a member of the Civil Air Patrol for four-and-a-half years, his

advance was to become a qualified CAP ground team member who is able to provide medical assistance, such as first aid and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. He accumulated more than 240 hours earning emergency medical certifications and training for community emergency response.

Since coming to Wright-Patterson in late June, Mr. Buck went on a 200-mile, five-day bicycle ride on Little Miami bicycle trails and took rock samples as he visited sites along the way.

He credited Chief Master Sgt. Eddie Chitwood at Whiteman AFB for acting as his adviser.

To accomplish the Congressional Award Gold Medal, Mr. Buck needed the support of his family.

"I was squadron commander of the CAP unit for one-and-a-half years," said Chief Buck. "We were a small staff, and the cadets took on leadership roles. I'm proud of Chris and of what the program does. As a parent, I try to raise good citizens. His mother is as proud as I am. We do our parts to support our children."

The Air Force Academy may be in his future. He received a presidential nomination to attend, and his Air Force goal is to be a combat rescue

officer. The Community Family Center provides oversight for individuals wanting to do what it takes to receive Congressional Award certificates and medals.

Sherri Denault is the point-of-contact for the program.

"There was a lot of effort to get the medal, and he's getting much deserved recognition," she said. "I'd like to see more youths and Airmen become part of this."

Col. Andrew Weaver, 88<sup>th</sup> Air Base Wing commander, presented a plaque to him in a ceremony in the Community Center.



# Nellis' Lindley lives for library for 35 years

By Dale Mitcham  
99<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

Once upon a time in a desert hamlet where metal birds soared through the sky at supersonic speed, there toiled a man who loved books and knowledge. In fact, he loved them so much that he has spent three and a half decades immersed in them.

The man is Rob Lindley. He has been the director of library services at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., since December 2002. Mr. Lindley has spent 35 years in data and information services ranging from high school and college to medical libraries.

The base library is a full-service facility that includes a computer lab, study rooms, audio and visual treasures to delight the most ardent music lover or reader.

"Our computer lab is connected to the Quality of Life Network," Mr. Lindley said. "The library should be your first stop for information. Yes, the

Internet is great, but is the information correct, timely? The librarians and staff can assist you in much more than what is on the web."

The self-proclaimed audiophile proudly boasts about the library's 500-plus music compact disc collection and more.

"We have something for everyone including books on tape and CD," he said.

"There's music for people of all ages here. We also have a tremendous DVD collection with about 500 titles and a 1,500 title VHS collection."

He also noted that library patrons can listen to or view their discs in rooms equipped with CD/DVD players and monitors.

The library has more than 50,000 different titles in its collection.

"The library has the McNaughton Collection that features selections from the New York Times Best Seller List," he said. "It covers fiction, non-fiction and children's books. Lemony



**Rob Lindley, director of library services at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., urges everyone to use the facilities at base libraries. Courtesy photo**

Snicket is just one of the best seller youth titles we have."

"My philosophy is simple — take care of the military family at Nellis. This includes everyone from the children of military members to contract employees," he said.

The retired Army sergeant major oversees a variety of programs. "We are currently working on establishing an in-depth travel guide collection featuring more than 100 destinations," he said.

Another popular program at the facility is the paperback exchange program. According to Mr. Lindley, anyone can trade paperback books from their collection. "The books in our

exchange program are donated by various people and organizations," he said. "The best way to keep the program viable is for our patrons to bring their unwanted books to trade when they pick out new ones."

Personal growth and development is also a key function of the library, according to the director. "People rely on the library to provide all type of educational and research material whether it's for scholastic or professional use," according to the director. "Take our pre-school reading program held Wednesdays at 10 a.m. We get children from surrounding communities that participate.

Their parents could easily use the libraries in their neighborhoods, but they see a value in bringing them here."

"We offer a wide variety of professional military education material," he said. "One of our featured collections is the Air Force Chief of Staff's reading list. The purpose of the collection, according to Gen. John Jumper, is to 'provide Guard, Reserve and Airmen insight into on-going conflicts and furnish leadership success stories.'"

The library is open Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Friday through Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. Mr. Lindley will be there.



## Deployed families find fun in Services

By Julie Rich  
436<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron

The men and women of the 436<sup>th</sup> Services Squadron are committed to providing quality programs and services to the families of Dover Air Force Base, Del., people through the Deployed Family Member Program.

The intent of this program is to support Dover Team family members during a time of increased stress and sacrifice in their lives. With a copy of the deployed sponsor's orders family members can use this program to receive these benefits.

The Landings Club offers two free months free dues to active duty military members, activated reservists and their dependent spouses.

Families visiting the Eagle Creek Golf Course receive one free round of golf with a half price discount on range balls one time per month. Families receive three free games of bowling once a month at the Eagle Lanes Bowling Center.

Each family is authorized one free lawn care equipment rental per month at Outdoor Recreation. Families receive 25 percent off any class at Arts and Crafts. Oil changes at the Auto Shop are free. Families receive \$10 off transportation to

one Leisure Travel Office shopping trip.

Adult family members registering a child for a youth sports activity receive a \$5 registration discount at the Youth Center. Families receive one free fitness orientation at the Fitness Center.

The Child Development Center offers parents of deployed people a few hours' break from the stress of parenting through the "Give Parents a Break Program."

The free program is available for children ages six months to 11 years and is offered on the first Friday of the month from 6 to 10 p.m.



### Will you be my Valentine?

From left, Sava Kramer and Alyssa Ross exchange valentines at the Royal Air Force Base Mildenhall Child Development Center. Sava is the son of Staff Sgt. Taj Kramer of the 488<sup>th</sup> Intelligence Squadron, and Alyssa is the daughter of Tech. Sgt. Derrick Ross of the 100<sup>th</sup> Security Forces Squadron. Photo by Cecil McCloud

# Nellis presents Las Vegas with Corporate Challenge

By Dale Mitcham  
99th Services Squadron

**G**et out your running shoes.

And your swim suit.

And your biking shorts, your darts, chess pieces, horseshoes, soccer ball, canoe paddles; and don't forget your tennis racket, bow and arrows, bowling ball, golf putter, bocce ball, and shuffleboard disc.

It's time to get ready for Corporate Challenge.

Corporate Challenge is a 10-week long event styled after the Olympics. Teams from all over the Las Vegas area compete.

Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., historically enters a team in every event and approximately 450

athletes take on the challenge.

As a base, Nellis usually comes in first or second place.

Anyone age 18 or older and employed at Nellis or a retiree, can be part of this exciting competition.

"It builds morale, instills company pride, develops team work and provides physical and mental conditioning for Nellis employees," said Nellis Corporate Challenge coordinator and Outdoor Recreation Director Mike Clegg. "It also enhances employer/employee relations, promotes Nellis AFB recognition and gives us a chance to network in our local community."

Besides all that, he added with a twinkle in his eye, "It's a whole lot of fun!"

Winners are awarded with

medals for first, second and third place. Points are received for first through sixth place, so one doesn't have to be a mean, lean fighting machine to participate.

As a special incentive, each participant receives a Team Nellis T-shirt. (This year it's a bold, cheery red, so the Nellis team will really stand out.)

What could be more fun than two

and a half months of friendly competition with Team Nellis pitted against teams such as the Bellagio (2004 Runner up), the Mirage, Nextel, Sierra Health, Treasure Island, Caesar's Palace, just to name a few?

You can bet your racquetball racquet this is the most fun and biggest challenge you'll have all spring.

## Last year

### Corporate Challenge 2004 Winners Division A

1st Place – Nellis Air Force Base  
2nd Place – Bellagio  
3rd Place – The Mirage

### Person of the Year

Jackie Cooper-Caskey of G.C. Wallace, Inc.  
Mike Clegg and Carol Padilla of Nellis Air Force Base  
Sue Harper of Golden Nugget

### Director's Sportsmanship Award

1st Place – Nellis Air Force Base  
2nd Place – G.C. Wallace, Inc.  
3rd Place – Southwest Airlines

### Blood Drive Winners Division A

1st Place – The Mirage  
2nd Place – MGM Grand  
3rd Place – Nellis Air Force Base

# 2004 AF Sports a winner

**By Steve Brown**  
Air Force Services  
Agency

Since 2004 was an Olympic year, Air Force Sports was even busier and successful than usual.

## Boxing

The year began with three Air Force boxers qualifying for the 2004 U.S. Olympic Boxing Trials by winning their weight classes in the 2004 Armed Forces Boxing Championships. Airmen 1st Class Jose Casasola from Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., won the 112-pound flyweight class and Hector Ramos from Travis AFB, Calif., won the 132-pound light-



**First Lt. Rickie Banister**

weight class. Airman James Johnson from Dyess AFB, Texas, won the 165-pound middleweight class.

## Bowling

The Air Force Bowling Team won the Armed Forces Bowling Championship by more than 2,800 pins, when 1st Lt. Rickie Banister from F.E. Warren AFB, Wyo., maintained a 199.96 average in the 24-game event. Master Sgt. Clarice Fielder from Langley AFB, Va., also contributed with a strong 189.63 average.

## Cross Country

Second Lts. Lara Coppinger from Edwards AFB, Calif., and Elissa Ballas from Fort Sam Houston, Texas, led the Air Force Team to their second consecutive Armed Forces championship at the 2004 Armed Forces Cross Country Championship, running first and second in the women's 8-kilometer race. Capt. Nicholas MacFalls



**Staff Sgt. Corey Farkas, left, defeated 2000 and 2004 Olympian Rulon Gardener for the silver medal at the U.S. National Wrestling Division II championship.**

from Los Angeles AFB, Calif., placed third in the Men's 4-kilometer.

## Women's Basketball

The Air Force won their third Armed Forces Championship of 2004 when the Women's Basketball Team unseated the perennial champion Army team for the

first time since 1991. Eielson AFB, Alaska's Airman 1st Class Naomi Mobley was named to the All-Tournament Team.

## Wrestling

Second Lt. Kevin Hoy (264-pound class, Free-style) from the Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., and Staff Sgt. Steven Woods (163-pound weight class, Greco-

Roman), also from the Academy, won their weight divisions in the 2004 Armed Forces Wrestling Championship. The Air Force went on to win the U.S. National Wrestling Division II Championship, where Staff Sgt. Corey Farkas, Academy, defeated the 2000 and 2004 Olympian Rulon Gardener for the silver medal.



## 2004 Sports, continued from Page 34

### Soccer

A husband-and-wife-team recently returned from deployment in Iraq, coached the Air Force to its fourth Armed Forces Championship when the Air Force won the 2004 Armed Forces Soccer Championship. Head coach Capt. Julie Mulloy and assistant coach Capt. Brian Mulloy, both A-10 pilots from Pope AFB, N.C., directed the team to the championship.

### Triathlon

The Air Force won its fifth Armed Forces Championship at the 2004 Armed Forces Triathlon Championship.

Capt. Camilla Stock from the Air Force Academy and Lieutenant Copinger finished second and third respectfully in this event.

### Men's Softball

The Air Force Men's Softball team captured the Air Force's sixth Armed Forces Champion-

ship title in 2004. The championship came down to the last game, decided in dramatic fashion when Tech. Sgt. Chris Markey from Ramstein AB, Germany, belted a three-run walk-off homer in the bottom of the fifth (mercy rule 17-3 victory).

### Women's Softball

Seven Air Force women softball players earned positions on the 2004 Armed Forces Women's Softball Team that represented the military

in the 2004 Amateur Softball Association's Western Regional Softball Championship. Staff Sgt. Jamie Thompson from Misawa AB, Japan, Staff Sgts. Stacy Robinson from Randolph, and Karrie Warren from Tyndall AFB, Fla., and Senior Airman Twyla Sears from Kadena AB, Japan, all were named First Team All-Americans by ASA.

### Marathon

Capt. Christopher Juarez's time of 2:26:03 was first in

the 2004 Armed Forces Marathon Championship, and third of more than 16,400 total runners in the 2004 Marine Corps Marathon, Washington, D.C.

### Golf

The Air Force won its seventh Armed Forces Championship at the 2004 Armed Forces Golf Championship. Capt. Jeff Scohy from Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, won the men's title with a four-day total of 283. Second Lt. Karin Tjelmeland from Lajes Field, Portugal, shot a 341 to win the women's title.

### Olympics

Air Force World Class Athlete Program participants earned berths on their respective U.S. Olympic teams and participated in the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece.

Capt. Kevin Eastler from F.E. Warren represented the Air Force and the United States in the 20-kilometer racewalk, finishing 21<sup>st</sup> in the Olympics.

First Lt. James Parker from Malmstrom AFB, Mont., was the nation's number one hammer thrower and won the U.S. Olympic Trials.

## Male and Female Athletes of the Year

First Lt. James Parker from Malmstrom was named the 2004 Air Force Male Athlete of the Year. He won the U.S. Track and Field Indoor Championship Weight-Throw and finished first in hammer throw at the U.S. Olympic Trials. Capt. Camilla Stock from the Air Force Academy was

named the 2004 Air Force Female Athlete of the Year. She finished fifth place at the International Women's Cup Triathlon in Puerto Rico in November and seventh at the La Paz International Points Race in Argentina.



First Lt.  
James Parker,  
2004 Male  
Athlete of the  
Year

Capt. Camilla  
Stock, 2004  
Female  
Athlete of the  
Year.  
Courtesy  
photos





## Workout instructor loses 115 lbs; goes for 10 more

# S-J civilian loses herself

By 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Jamie Humphries  
4th Fighter Wing Public Affairs  
Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C.

She was sitting on the bathroom floor while her children were taking

a bath. Her back was in pain, and her patience was growing thin because her children were taking too much time in the tub. This is the moment in Keyra Donaldson's life when she realized

she was severely overweight.

The year was 2000; Mrs. Donaldson was 25 years old and weighed 250 pounds. She was new to the area, depressed and embarrassed to go to the gym.

"I was always a big kid, even in high school," Mrs. Donaldson said. "I used to hate going to physical education class as a child."

Growing up in Dillon, Mont., her family wasn't aware of how to live a healthy lifestyle and didn't have the money to buy food needed to maintain a healthy diet.

She had no idea how to exercise and gave little thought as to the choices needed to maintain proper eating habits.

Because she was self-conscious about going to the gym, she ordered exercise videos and gradually began to lose weight.

"I remember hearing somewhere that a person

needed to work out 45 minutes a day for themselves," Mrs. Donaldson said. "I didn't know what was healthy; I cut what I ate in half, to

start, like taking four Pop-Tarts and eating two instead."

After working out to videos at home and cutting her diet

**Continued on Page 37**



## Before

Pictured in 2000, Keyra Donaldson was 25 years old and weighed 250 pounds. Courtesy photo



## After

In 2005, now 30 years old, Keyra Donaldson weighs in at 135 pounds, hoping to lose another 10, with a goal of losing half her old weight. Photo by Senior Airman J.G. Buzanowski

## Lost herself, found herself, continued from Page 36

in half, Mrs. Donaldson lost 60 pounds and had renewed confidence.

She began doing research on healthy eating and joined BellaMorphosis, a fitness center on base for women.

The year was then 2003, and BellaMorphosis was looking for fitness instructors. The staff found just the right person.

"Bella' was looking for instructors and they noticed my motivation," said Mrs. Donaldson. "They asked me to do it."

Little did she know, getting hired at BellaMorphosis was a perfect fit for her and the gym as well.

"Keyra's been a godsend to our facility," said Sharon Grieve, BellaMorphosis Women's Health Club director. "She's inspiring; it's a blessing to have her."

Two years later and at 30 years old, she now stands 5 feet 2 inches tall and weighs 135 pounds. Mrs. Donaldson teaches 25 classes per week, splitting time

between BellaMorphosis and the base fitness center, averaging 12 people per class. She teaches four different classes, lasting 35 to 90 minutes each, including circuit, abdominal, weight lifting and spinning.

The circuit course focuses on endurance training that includes running, squats and jump roping. Her abdominal class works the stomach and back muscles.

The toning course works to strengthen the body from head to toe, and the spin class, conducted on stationary cycles, focuses on high endurance, change of speed and resistance.

Mrs. Donaldson looks forward to participation in her classes and takes comfort that she's making a difference in people's lives. While conducting classes at the fitness center, she regularly works with active duty military members who are training for their physical fitness test.

"Nobody has failed their physical

fitness test after taking my classes regularly," Mrs. Donaldson said.

Although the look on people's faces is satisfying after a good workout, Mrs. Donaldson explains the reaction her three children, twin 9-year-old boys Alston and Taylor and 7-year-old Auriq, have to her transformation is the most rewarding of all.

"My youngest son once told me that he can now put his arms around my waist and hug me," Mrs. Donaldson said. "I never realized the difference; he now asks me what's healthy for him."

In a notebook she carries with her are pictures she keeps of herself as a reminder of the days which she had 13 to 15 inches more on her waist and hips.

The photos are a constant reminder of what once was and provides her with inspiration to help others continue their struggle with weight loss.

"I keep one pair of pants from when

I was big that at the time could barely fit over my legs," she said. "Now they just fall off of me; I still

hope to lose 10 more pounds so I can tell people that I've lost half of myself."



Quick repetitions of a variety of weight sizes is integral to Keyra Donaldson's "Powertoning" class. She's a fitness instructor at BellaMorphosis, the women's fitness center at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, N.C. Photo by Senior Airman J.G. Buzanowski

# Grueling 'circuitron' draws crowd

**By Rudy Purificato**  
311<sup>th</sup> Human Systems Wing  
Brooks City-Base, Texas

Circuit training at Brooks became even more grueling recently when the fitness center hosted the first base "circuitron" that helped commemorate Black History Month.

The 2-hour marathon of physical conditioning exercises attracted about 40 hardy souls, none of whom stayed for the entire non-stop routine. The event was designed to give regular circuit training participants and newcomers an opportunity to expand their physical activity rather than their waistlines. Normal circuit training sessions last 47 minutes and involve 36 exercise stations called the "circuit."

"It was the first time we've tried this here," said Hosea Talbert,

Brooks fitness center specialists, who, along with Pablo Segura, facilitate weekly circuit training sessions at the gym on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Mr. Talbert, who conducted the marathon session, calculated that he went through the circuit about four times. The circuitron featured more than 40 stations and was modified to fulfill participant's interest in certain exercises.

"The most popular exercises are the crunches," said Mr. Talbert, who added additional crunch stations during the circuitron. They also added more push-ups to make the circuitron even more challenging.

"Push-ups intimidate a lot of people because most people don't have a lot of upper body strength," said Mr. Segura. He said there are other circuit training exercises designed to build upper body strength.

"A lot of people have never done shoulder workouts before," he said, referring to such circuit training routines as shoulder raises.

The circuit training facilitators plan to launch a new initiative to help anyone interested build upper body strength.

"We'll help people build strength using weight machines," said Mr. Segura, referring to a weight program that follows a circuit training format by using the fitness center's 14-16 weight machines. Training in the weight machine program two to three times a week will provide participants with a full-body workout that will also help them in circuit training.

The goal of this expanded program is to get more civilian employees involved in the fitness program being advocated by Air Force Materiel Command.



## *Eagle Creek icebreaker*

Jack Crookshank, a retired military member, examines his clubs after golfing on the Eagle Creek Golf Course at Dover Air Force Base, Del. The course held its annual Icebreaker tournament recently. Photo by April Crampton



## Sharks surface at Lakenheath

By Cindy Lander  
48<sup>th</sup> Services Marketing

The competition was tough at the USAFE Pool Shark Tournament held recently at RAF Lakenheath's 48th Avenue. Just ask any of the finalists.

"I'm amazed at the quality of players in USAFE. It's been a phenomenal tournament," said James Wells from Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. He and his partner, Doug Huttenlocker, placed third in the contest.

With the competition down to two teams, the battle became intense. In the next-to-last set, the score was tied at three games each. When the team of John Ehle and Scott Wasner from Ramstein AB,



Ron Davis of RAF Mildenhall lines up his shot.

Ger., won the seventh game, another set was necessary to determine a winner.

In the end, the Ramstein team edged past Ron Davis and Tony Gonzalez of RAF Mildenhall to capture the USAFE Championship title.

"The competition was excellent," said Mr. Gonzalez.

"There are some really good pool players here. Any

team could've won this contest. I hope this becomes an annual event."

Mr. Ehle said he and his partner grew up within 10 miles of each other in Pennsylvania; they frequented the same pool halls and restaurants, but never knew each other until they met while playing pool in Germany.

"It was nice to have a USAFE pool tournament," he said. "It was a great week and I enjoyed playing with all the people from other bases. We can't wait for next year!"

"At first you think it's just playing pool," said Mr. Wasner, "but you soon realize that it's much more than that. The competition here is extremely strong."



Tony Gonzalez of RAF Mildenhall evaluates his options. Photos by Mia Hubert



## Hoopin' it up at the Offutt Field House

Airman 1st Class Tookie Johnson relaxes with a pick-up game of basketball at the Offutt Air Force Base, Neb., Field House. He is assigned to the 55th Security Forces Squadron. Photo by Master Sgt. Lance Cheung



# 18th SVS edges MOS 68-60, wins 2005 Kadena championship



Members of the 18th SVS basketball team pose for a photo after winning the intramural basketball championship trophy in March. From left, front row, are Ross Roley, Terrell Parker, Rob Kindell Jr., Troy Dueling; second row, Chris Jackson, Rob Kindell Sr., Ernest Mauristhene, Dan Funchess, Paul Bailey, Chico Jones, Chris Gunn and Ryan Smith. Not pictured are Firello White and Julian Simentar. Photos by Senior Airman Mercedes McAlister



Quentin Chandler grabs a rebound during the recent intramural basketball championship game between Kadena Air Base, Japan's 18th Maintenance Operations Squadron and 18th Services Squadron.



## Running for Cupid

Runners take off during the recent Cupid 5K fun run at Kirtland Air Force Base, N.M.. Susan Reyna and Jennifer Laslo took first and second places in the women's walking category. Don Reichman was the first place winner in the men's walking category. Cari Geroch from Sandia Labs and Dot Wire took first and second in the women's running category. Dave Bliss from Sandia Labs and Tom Eads from the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center nabbed first and second in the men's running category. Photo by Todd Berenger

# AF Bowl-by-Mail winners named

By Steve VanWert  
Air Force Services Agency

Youth between the ages of 5 and 18 were national winners in 16 categories in the Air Force Bowl by Mail competition, according to Air Force Services Agency officials.

They were part of more than 3,100 youth bowlers from 69 bases worldwide.

The teens and preteens bowled a series of games at their installations

and mailed the results to their respective major commands. The top three places for each age division were compiled and forwarded to Air Force Services Agency headquarters in San Antonio and the Air Force winners were selected from the highest scores of the major command bowlers.

"This is the fifth consecutive year for the Bowl by Mail program," said Chad Dowell, youth specialist at the Services Agency. "The number of

bowlers increased by more than 700 from last year. It's a justification of the popularity and success of the program."

The event was originally developed to introduce youth of all ages to a fun and exciting sport they will be able to enjoy throughout their lifetimes. Overall high game and high series winning youth will be sent a plaque and a certificate mailed directly to their base youth program.

The winners and their categories are:

High game, ages 5-8, male:

First place: Dylan Biasini from F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo. (Air Force Space Command), who rolled a 171 game.

Second place: Jaylen Harris from Tinker AFB, Okla. (Air Force Materiel Command), who bowled a 161 game.

Third place: Austin Hewlett from Pope AFB, N.C. (Air Combat Command), who rolled a 155 game.

High game, ages 5-8, female:

First place: Brianna Hurst, also from F.E. Warren, who rolled a 152 game.

Second place: Mikah Way from Hill AFB, Utah (AFMC), who rolled a 133 game.

Third place: Teresa Howard from F.E. Warren, who rolled a 142 game.

High series, ages 5-8, male:

First place: Austin Hewlett from Pope AFB, N.C. (Air Mobility Command), who rolled a 412 series.

Second place: Biasini from F.E. Warren, who rolled a 378 series.

Third place: Harris from Tinker, who rolled a 366 series.

High series, ages 5-8, female:

First place: Hurst from F.E. Warren, who rolled a 351 series.

Second place: Katie Davis from Moron Air Base, Spain (U.S. Air Forces in Europe), who rolled a 339 series.

Third place: Emilie Hood from Royal Air Force Base Croughton, United Kingdom (USAFE), who rolled a 338 series.

High game, ages 9-11, male:

First place: Mitchell Powell from Offutt AFB, Neb. (ACC), who rolled a 219 game.

Second place: Andrew Horad from Dover AFB, Del. (AMC), who rolled a 200 game.

Third place: Robert Davidson from Travis AFB, Calif. (AMC), who rolled a 197 game.

High game, ages 9-11, female:

First place: Sydney Pinkert from Eglin AFB, Fla. (AFMC), who rolled a 208 game.

Second place: Kandace Peterson from Scott AFB, Ill. (AMC), who rolled a 194 game.

Third place: Alisha Freed from Dover, who rolled a 191 game.

High series, ages 9-11, male:

First place: Mitchell Powell from Offutt, who rolled a 527 series.

Second place: Horad from Dover, who rolled a 501 series.

Third place: Robert Davidson from Travis, who rolled a 492 series.

High series, ages 9-11, female:

First place: Kandace Peterson from Scott, who rolled a 502 series.

Second place: Pinkert from Eglin, who rolled a 490 series.

Third place: Debra Lim from Cannon AFB, N.M. (ACC), who rolled a 429 series.

High game, ages 12-14, male:

First place: Kevin Sobieski from Langley AFB, Va. (ACC), who rolled a 237 game.

Second place: James Teaters from Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio (AFMC), who rolled a 230 game.

Third place: Tobin Shipp from Minot AFB, N.D. (ACC), who rolled a 224 game.

High game, ages 12-14, female:

First place: Kim Knapp from Minot, who rolled a 268 game.

Second place: Sharkena Brown from Seymour-Johnson AFB, N.C. (ACC), who rolled a 266 game.

Third place: Dominique Robinson-Brown from Seymour-Johnson, who rolled a 204 game.

High series, ages 12-14, male:

First place: Teaters from Wright-Patterson, who rolled a 590 series.

Second place tie: Brian Molloy from Kadena AB, Japan (Pacific Air Forces), a 573 series.

Second place tie: Sobieski from Langley, who also rolled a 573 series.

Third place: Robbie Schweak from Malmstrom AFB, Mont. (Air Force Space Command), who rolled a 545 series.

High series, ages 12-14, female:

First place: Kim Knapp from Minot, who rolled a 592 series.

Second place: Lauren Crocker from F.E. Warren, who rolled a 460 series.

Third place: Amanda Cordy from Offutt, who rolled a 452 series.

High game, ages 15-18, male:

First place tie: Justin Clapper from Offutt, who rolled a 247 game.

First place tie: Michael Wilkinson from Eglin, who rolled a 247 game.

Second place: Goeff McMullin from Offutt, who rolled a 243 game.

Third place: Brad Bell from Eglin, who rolled a 236 game.

High game ages 15-18, female:

First place: Julie Myhre from Eglin, who rolled a 236 game.

Second place: Rebecca Witt from Offutt, who rolled a 236 game.

Third place: Tori Bell from Offutt, who rolled a 225 game.

High series, ages 15-18, male:

First place: Clapper from Offutt, who rolled a 699 series.

Second place: Mike Long from Offutt, who rolled a 682 series.

Third place: McMullin from Offutt, who rolled a 669 series.

High series, ages 15-18, female:

First place: Witt from Offutt, who rolled a 653 series.

Second place: Myhre from Eglin, who rolled a 613 series.

Third place: Bell from Offutt, who rolled a 608 series.

## Brooks youth hoop teams win 'triple crown'

By Rudy Purificato  
311<sup>th</sup> Human Systems Wing

For the first time in Brooks sports history, three youth basketball teams have simultaneously won post-season championships.

Brooks hoops teams turned March Madness into a month-long celebration by capturing the triple crown of military youth basketball in San Antonio.

"It's the best performance we have ever had," said Larry Flores, Brooks Youth Sports director.

The Brooks Eagles boys team No. 3 won the Fort Sam Houston 11 to 12 year-old Boys Basketball Tournament by defeating the Fort Sam

team No. 4. Seeded first with an 11-0 regular season record under coach Paul Flores, the Brooks squad completed a perfect undefeated season by winning its three post-season games.

"The tournament featured 12 teams from Randolph, Fort Sam and Brooks. Our three teams placed first, second and fourth in the tournament," said Mr. Flores, noting that this achievement was a Brooks youth basketball first.

Brooks team No. 2, coached by Robert Munoz and Ernest Trevino, finished second and fourth.

The Brooks 13 to 14 year-old girls team, coached by Marty Trevino, won the Randolph Air

Force Base, Texas, Girls Basketball tournament's age division. It is the first time that a Brooks girls team has won a post-season championship.

Finishing second in Randolph's 13 to 14 year-old Boys Basketball tournament was the Brooks team coached by Jessica Avilez.

The Brooks 15 to 17-year-old team, coached by Patrick Reyes, won the Brooks Youth Sports 15 to 17 year-old Boys Basketball tournament.

"At least for this season, Brooks is home to a powerhouse youth basketball program," Mr. Flores said.

### *It's all my vault*

Cliff McGonigle, gymnastics instructor, guides Ocean Duncan, 6, through a vault during a class at the 56th Services Squadron Youth Center at Luke Air Force Base, Ariz. Classes meet twice a week for ages 6 to 8 years, 9 to 12 years, and 13 to 16 years of age. Photo by Senior Airman Christopher Hummel

